

COSMOTOPICS

MID-YEAR 2026 ISSUE

A PUBLICATION OF COSMOPOLITAN INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION

JULY 23-26
2026

Bloomington, MN



ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

- Officer & Director Articles
- 2026 Convention Schedule
- Club Happenings
- 2025 Convention Recap and Award Winners

COSMOTOPICS

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Cosmopolitan International is to contribute to community well-being through charitable donations and volunteer service, with special emphasis on supporting efforts to prevent and find a cure for diabetes.

2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION *Recap*

July 24-27, 2025 • Kansas City, MO

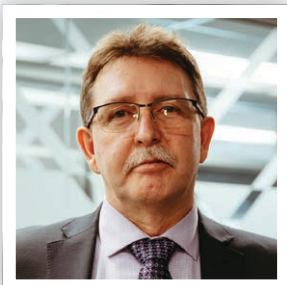




Moving Forward

By John Krysak, International President

As I sit down to write this report, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey that has brought me here.



Serving as President of this organization — especially after being entrusted with a second term—is both an honour and a responsibility that I hold close to my heart.

Many of you know that Cosmopolitan has been a meaningful part of my life for more than 30 years. My journey began with a simple invitation from Bill Pollon, one of the managing partners at my firm, to attend an organizational meeting for the formation of a new club, the Wascana Cosmopolitan Couples. From that first meeting to today, I could never have imagined that one day I would be serving as your International President. It has truly been a rewarding and humbling experience.

Leading up to the 2025 Convention, there was a strong sense of excitement and anticipation, particularly around the restructuring of our Board. Countless hours were spent planning, meeting, and discussing how we could best position Cosmopolitan International for the future. We could feel the momentum building — a new chapter, a new beginning.

With the passing of Past International Judge Advocate Jim McVay, who played a pivotal role in guiding us toward a modernized board structure, we were reminded of the importance of continuing the work he helped begin. I am proud to say that at Convention, the new structure was approved, and today we are moving forward with renewed energy and purpose.

Thanks to the dedication of many members who stepped up to serve, we left Convention with a full slate of officers, all committed to strengthening our organization. One of the most significant changes was the decision to transition away from an Executive Director model and instead distribute responsibilities

across volunteer board positions. While not an easy decision, this approach allows us to reduce administrative costs and direct more of our dues toward programs and service. By expanding the Board, we are sharing the workload more effectively and empowering more leaders to contribute.

I want to personally thank Past International President and Past Executive Director Melvina Newman for her professionalism, support, and grace throughout this transition. Her knowledge, experience, and ongoing service as a director and committee member continue to be invaluable as we prepare for the 2026 Convention.

My theme for 2025–2026 remains unchanged because it reflects what I firmly believe:

More members equal more funding, which equates to more ability.

Growth remains our top priority. As shared during the Delegates Meeting, we increased membership by 51 members last year — a 7.1% increase among active clubs. That's a strong foundation and clear evidence that our collective efforts are working.

Our key objectives for the year include:

- Holding efficient monthly meetings, capped at two hours, to respect everyone's time
- Ensuring Directors and committees maintain steady progress and provide regular updates
- Strengthening communication and alignment across all leadership levels
- Achieving a 10% membership increase
- Continuing strong support of our International Project, with quarterly funding updates and initiatives

I'm encouraged to report that we continue to move forward. Each month brings news of new members joining our family. This is



especially important as we recognize the natural demographic changes within our organization. While some longtime members may step back from active roles, our responsibility is clear: we must recruit and engage new members faster than we lose them. Sustained growth ensures our future.

This year, I've had the pleasure of witnessing many inspiring accomplishments across our clubs. We have seen clubs inducted into historical halls of fame, others celebrating 100 years of service, and many hosting tournaments, bingos, and casino events that raise remarkable funds for their communities. Some clubs have even doubled their membership. These successes demonstrate the vitality, commitment, and heart that define Cosmopolitan.

As we continue to evolve, we also continue to ask important questions about how we can be better — how we can strengthen what works and remove barriers that hold us back. Many of you have received questionnaires through your federation leaders and presidents about what matters most to you within Cosmopolitan International. I encourage you to participate. Your input will help guide the decisions that shape our future.

Finally, I want to thank each and every member I have connected with — whether in person, on Zoom, or through a message or phone call. Your dedication inspires me daily. Every dollar raised, every hour volunteered, and every act of service strengthens our communities and advances vital diabetes research. The impact we make together is real and lasting.

Please continue the important work: invite new members, start new clubs, raise funds, and support your communities. Together, we truly make a difference.

John Krysak
International President
John.krysak@cosmopolitan.org





Why Belong to Cosmopolitan International

By Sheila Anderson, Director of Marketing

Being part of Cosmopolitan International means your local club's efforts are amplified far beyond what any single club could accomplish alone.



As an International organization, we carry greater credibility and influence, allowing us to partner with leading diabetes research institutes and create meaningful, lasting impact. Membership

connects clubs to a trusted global brand, shared resources, leadership development, and a powerful network of fellow Cosmopolitans who share ideas, fellowship, and purpose. Together, International doesn't replace local impact—it strengthens it, ensuring every club is part of something bigger, more visible, and more enduring.

What International Does for You as a Local Club

Local clubs are the heart of Cosmopolitan International. But together, under one International organization, we multiply our strength, credibility, and impact. Here's what International does that no local club can do alone:

1. Credibility & Influence

- International gives us the power of scale.
- As one voice, we can partner with national and international diabetes research institutes, healthcare organizations, and sponsors that would never consider a single club on its own.
- Our collective reputation opens doors that make local clubs more relevant in their own communities.

2. Shared Brand & Recognition

- The Cosmopolitan name carries nearly a century of service and history.
- Belonging to a global brand sets your club apart from “just another local service group.”
- It's easier to attract new members, donors, and sponsors when you can point to the broader movement you're part of.

3. Collective Impact

- Your club's fundraising, service, and membership growth contribute to something bigger than local.

- Together, Cosmopolitan clubs are funding groundbreaking diabetes research, raising awareness, and changing lives in ways that no club could achieve on its own.
- Every dollar, every event, and every new member becomes part of a global legacy.

4. Resources & Support

- International develops ready-to-use marketing materials, recruitment campaigns, and fundraising initiatives to save clubs time, energy, and money.
- Leadership training, convention programming, and digital tools are provided to help clubs grow and thrive.
- Instead of reinventing the wheel, clubs benefit from shared resources that work.

5. Networking & Fellowship Beyond Borders

- International connects you to a global network of passionate, service-minded people.
- Members gain lifelong friendships, professional connections, and opportunities to share ideas with other clubs.
- The fellowship extends beyond your community — and that sense of belonging matters.

6. Leadership & Legacy

- International offers opportunities to serve on boards, committees, and international projects — giving members leadership experience beyond the local level.
- Those experiences strengthen personal growth, build resumes, and deepen members' pride in leaving a legacy that spans communities and generations.

Bottom Line:

International **multiplies your local impact.** It gives your club credibility, resources, and connections that make your work easier, more powerful, and more meaningful.

Together, we're not just serving our communities — we're shaping the future of diabetes research and building a legacy that lasts.

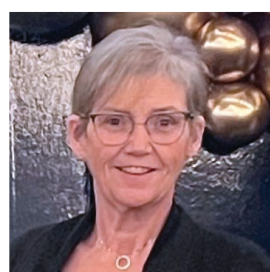
Sheila Anderson
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sheila.anderson@cosmopolitan.org

Why Young Leaders Belong in Cosmopolitan International



By Cheryl MacKenzie, Director of Membership

Today's young professionals are looking for more than a résumé boost—they want purpose, connection, and the opportunity to make a real difference. Cosmopolitan International offers exactly that. As a global nonprofit service organization, Cosmopolitan brings together people who believe in giving back, building friendships, and creating lasting impact in their communities and beyond.



At the heart of Cosmopolitan International is meaningful service. For decades, Cosmopolitans have supported local communities while championing important causes such

as diabetes awareness and prevention. For younger members, this means their time and energy translate directly into real-world change. Whether volunteering locally, fundraising for a cause they care about, or supporting global initiatives, young members aren't just participating—they're contributing to something bigger than themselves.

Just as important as service is fellowship. Cosmopolitan International is built on relationships, offering young members a welcoming space to connect with like-minded individuals across generations and cultures. At the Federation and International levels, conventions provide opportunities to build these connections. We encourage young members to attend, share feedback with leadership, and help shape gatherings that are engaging, meaningful, and worth the commitment of time.

At the local level, clubs provide opportunities to build friendships, expand professional networks, and learn from experienced leaders eager to mentor the next generation. This sense of belonging transforms service into something enjoyable, social, and deeply rewarding.

Cosmopolitan International also empowers young members to lead. Unlike many organizations where leadership opportunities take years to access, Cosmopolitan International wants to encourage members to step forward early. Young professionals are invited to share ideas, lead projects, serve on committees, and help shape the future of their clubs.

These hands-on leadership experiences build confidence, develop valuable skills, and create real impact — not just titles.

Flexibility is another reason Cosmopolitan International resonates with younger generations. The organization recognizes that careers, families, and personal commitments require balance. Members can engage in ways that fit their schedules, from short-term projects to ongoing leadership roles, both in person and where possible virtually. This adaptable approach ensures service remains fulfilling rather than overwhelming.

Most importantly, Cosmopolitan International offers a sense of purpose. In a fast-paced, digital world, the opportunity to connect face-to-face, give back meaningfully, and belong to a global community is powerful. Young members don't just join Cosmopolitan—they help shape its future, carry its mission forward, and build a lasting legacy of service.

If you're a young professional seeking impact, connection, and leadership opportunities, Cosmopolitan International offers a place where your voice matters and your service makes a difference. This is more than an organization—it's a community where young leaders grow, serve, and thrive together.

A Call to Our Club and Federation Leadership

It's time to share the stories of our young members—our up-and-coming leaders. Please look within your clubs for stories you'd like to highlight and send those stories and photos to Cheryl.MacKenzie@cosmopolitan.org.

Let's recognize our future leaders not only once a year through our awards program, but more regularly through shared communications in **Calling All Cosmos** and stories on our website. I look forward to sharing and celebrating their stories.

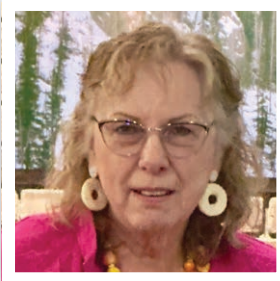
Cheryl MacKenzie
Director of Membership
cheryl.mackenzie@cosmopolitan.org



Fundraising Plans

By Nancy Trautman, Director of Fundraising

It is halfway through our Cosmopolitan year. This is a good time for Clubs to consider the direction they will pursue for fundraising in the upcoming 2026-2027 year.



Planning for the future starts with reviewing what has happened in the past. Ask: What was successful? What needs to be improved? What can be done to freshen up a fundraising event? Is there something new

that can be tried? Whether a club has an existing committee or needs to form a new committee to do this work, it is important to begin soon and have this completed by May 1.

Why is it important to plan? It contributes to better financial planning and more accurate budgeting. It can help Clubs understand how many volunteers will be needed. It can help develop an activity calendar that shows what time commitments will be required of membership. Don't make this a huge and difficult task. This is a review.

One of my favorite quotes is from former US President Dwight D. Eisenhower, "Failing to plan is planning to fail." By taking some time to plan now for future fundraising, Cosmopolitan International can increase the amount of contributions we make to finding a cure for Diabetes. I am happy to help. Contact me.

Nancy Trautman
Director of Fundraising
njt751@gmail.com

A New Strategy

By Kurt Kopp, Secretary

I'll bet that most of you are tired of hearing about the need to increase our membership. As I am sure you are aware, declining membership is a universal problem for organizations.



Another oft lamented aspect of membership is the lack of young and middle age members. However I would encourage us to look upon the senior sector as a fertile demographic for

recruitment. Our senior citizens have a wealth of experience, knowledge, and hopefully wisdom accumulated over the years. They also tend to have more time to give to pursuits that interest them. So now that you have given up on getting your children involved, maybe try recruiting your aunts, uncles, mother, father, brothers, sisters, etc. You might be pleasantly surprised at the result.

Kurt Kopp
Secretary
warnerkopp@gmail.com

OFFICER ARTICLE



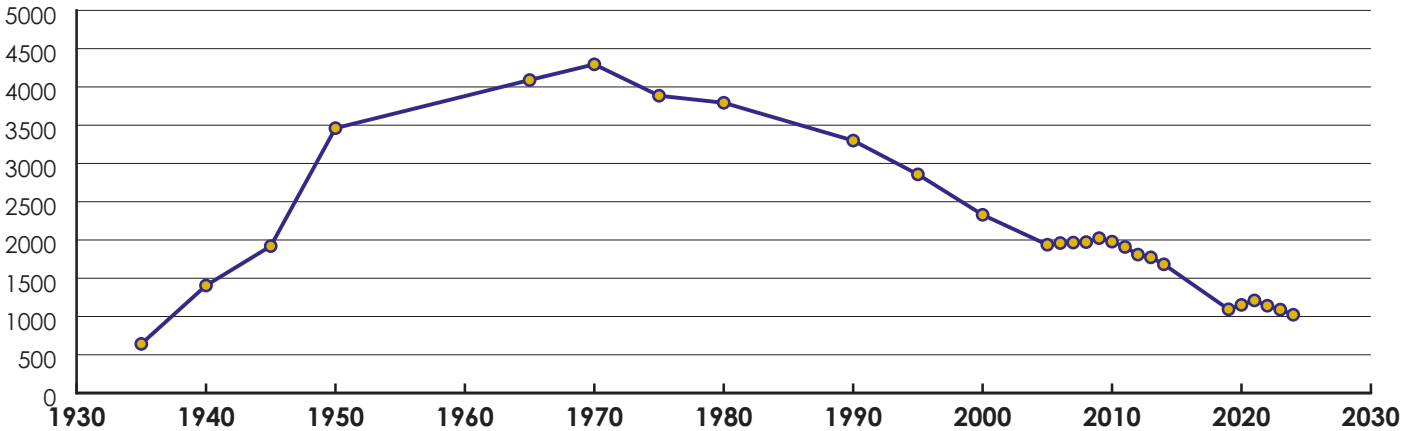
2024-2025 Cosmopolitan Annual Report



By Randy Kramer, Treasurer

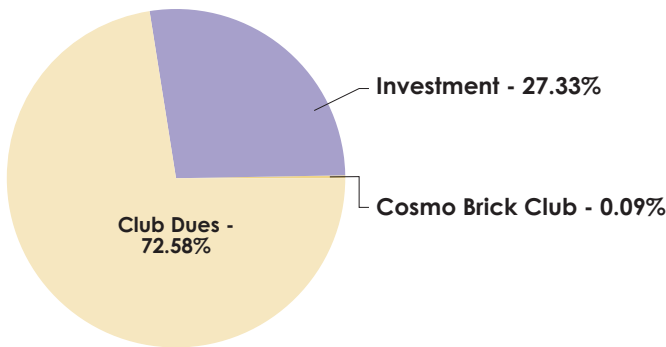
MEMBERSHIPS

NUMBER OF MEMBERS PER YEAR

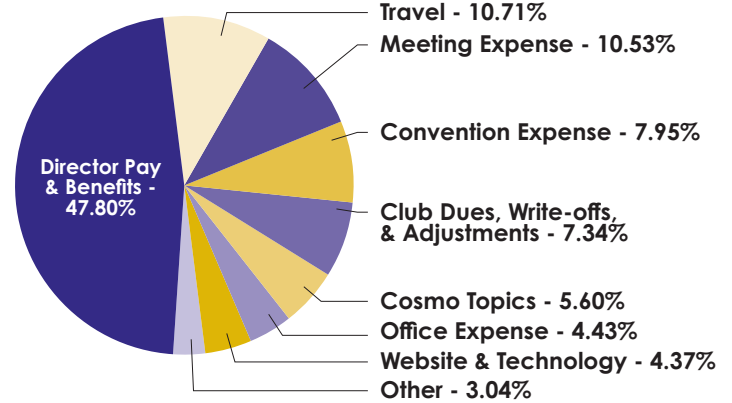


FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

REVENUE: \$135,905



EXPENSES: \$138,306



Source	Amount
Club Dues	\$98,639
Investment	\$37,141
Cosmo Brick Club	\$125
Total Revenue	\$135,905

Source	Amount
Director Pay & Benefits	\$64,959
Travel	\$14,550
Meeting Expense	\$14,305
Convention Expense	\$10,802
Club Dues Write-offs & Adjustments	\$9,978
Cosmo Topics	\$7,616
Office Expense	\$6,018
Website & Technology	\$5,944
Other Expenses	\$4,134
Total Expenses	\$138,306

As of June 30, 2025

OFFICER ARTICLE



This is Your Organization

By Melvina Newman, From the Director of Website/IT

The months and this year certainly do have a way of flying by very fast and now we are already at midyear for all our clubs.



In this issue you will find information from the past months and a wrap up of the 2025 convention with the award winners from the 2025 convention along with some convention pictures. If you were

unable to attend the convention, hope you enjoy the articles and pictures.

Now, we look forward to the next convention, and you will find in this issue information and a schedule of the upcoming 2026 convention in July and our stay at the Hilton in Bloomington, MN. Another convention that will bring education and business together along with fun and fellowship. Plan to attend the convention this year.

Have you checked the website recently? Additional and new information is available on the Cosmo website. If you missed newsletters, you would find them published. If you want to know about your or another Federation, check out the Federation information.

The convention page on the website will be set up for registration for the convention in the very near future. However, you are now able to register for a room at the Hilton with the link set up on the convention page and there is also a phone number if you prefer to call the Hilton for a room reservation. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email and ask. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Did you set goals for the year? Have you accomplished those goals? Now is the time to set targets to reach those goals and make a difference and support efforts to prevent and find a cure for diabetes.

Together we are strengthening the fabric of our community through our service and fundraising events. This work is shaped by countless volunteers who welcome service projects in our communities, invite connections, show compassion and accept challenges in all our communities. Recruiting new members and retaining our members are keys to any organization and especially lends more strength to our service in our communities.

Remember the positive side of life:

- Praise is more spontaneous when things go right; but it is more precious when things go wrong.
- Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.
- We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors—but they all exist very nicely in the same box.
- A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

This is your organization—enjoy the rest of the year!

Melvina Newman
Director of Website/IT
headquarters@cosmopolitan.org

OFFICER ARTICLE

Leading with Purpose: My Journey with Cosmo and the Importance of Education



By Judy Weitkemper, Director of Education

Since joining the Columbia Show-Me Club in May 1999, my journey with Cosmo has been one of dedication, growth, and deep connection.



Over the years, I have had the privilege to serve in various capacities across Columbia and St. Charles County Clubs in Missouri: four terms as Club President, multiple terms as Vice President of Membership, Secretary,

Treasurer for many years, Board member, and chair of several committees. Each role has enriched my experience and strengthened my bond with the Cosmo community, forging lifelong friendships that I cherish.

My commitment extended beyond local involvement. At the Federation level, I have worked alongside the board in numerous ways, served as Lieutenant Governor, Governor-elect, and Governor, and was honored as Governor of the Year at the international level. Today, I remain deeply engaged, training and mentoring governors across all six Federations. The recognition I've received, including a wall full of awards like International Cosmo of the Year and the Patrick J. Hodgins award, reflects a journey powered by passion rather than personal gain.

I share this not to highlight my achievements, but to underscore an important lesson I learned early: you reap what you sow. The more you invest in Cosmo, the greater the rewards—not for oneself, but for others and the community we serve. My involvement has always been driven by a desire to make a difference, and to foster a spirit of service at every level.

In July, I embraced a new challenge as Director of Education. This role has tested and inspired me in equal measure, and I am fortunate to work with a dynamic committee. Special thanks to Karen Shepherd and Linda Gentry, both past Governors, and Candace Gorton, past First Lady, who work diligently on pulling together all materials for Governors and Club Board members. Their dedication and collaborative spirit have been instrumental in advancing our mission, and I am excited to introduce our work to the wider Cosmo family.

In July, I embraced a new challenge as Director of Education. This role has both tested and inspired me, and I am fortunate to work with a dynamic committee. Special thanks to Karen Shepherd and Linda Gentry, both past Governors, and Candace Gorton, past First Lady, who work diligently to compile all materials for Governors and Club Board positions. Their dedication and collaborative spirit have been instrumental in advancing our mission, and I am excited to introduce our work to the wider Cosmo family.

The **Director of Education & Committee** is pivotal in promoting effective and consistent leadership across our organization. By developing clear, comprehensive instructions for leaders, we ensure best practices are followed and our shared mission and values are upheld in every club. These guidelines empower both new and seasoned leaders to understand their roles, responsibilities, and expectations, promoting smooth transitions and reducing uncertainty when leadership changes occur.

Standardized instructions foster continuity and cohesion among clubs, regardless of location. When leaders can rely on common resources and guidance, a sense of unity and collective purpose flourishes. This alignment is particularly vital for bridging gaps in communication and practice, ensuring all clubs reflect the Board's vision and operational standards. Our materials also provide ongoing support, allowing leaders to revisit resources as needed, tackle challenges confidently, and make informed decisions. Ultimately, this proactive approach strengthens our clubs and elevates the reputation and success of Cosmo throughout the U.S. and Canada.

As we move forward, I am inspired by the commitment and camaraderie that defines Cosmo. Together, through education and shared leadership, we are building a future where every club thrives, every member is empowered, and our impact continues to grow.

Judy Weitkemper
Director of Education
judyweitk@gmail.com

OFFICER ARTICLE



PLANNING UNDERWAY!

By Wade Frink, Director of Conventions

When I first looked at the responsibilities involved in planning a convention, I thought, “I can do this.” I mentioned it to my wife, and without hesitation she said, “Of course you can — you do things like this all the time.”



What I’m discovering, though, is that organizing a convention is much more involved than I expected. That said, it has also been an incredible learning experience. One of the biggest lessons for me

has been learning how to ask for help and trust others to follow through. Trusting others hasn’t always been my strongest trait — but I’m getting better every day, and I’m grateful for the amazing team around me.

At its heart, a convention is about connection. It’s a chance to learn, to meet members from other clubs, to share ideas, and to strengthen our organization together. Just as important, it should be fun. When people enjoy themselves while learning and collaborating, they carry those positive experiences back to their clubs and communities. That energy helps our organization grow and, most importantly, supports our shared mission in the fight to find a cure for this terrible disease.

Planning for Convention 2026 is now well underway. We kicked off the year with a Zoom meeting that brought most of the committee members together, and the momentum has been building ever since. With everything happening in Minnesota, we are focusing many of our activities within the hotel to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for everyone. For those who would like to explore, we will also provide a list of local sights and attractions. More details will be shared as we get closer to the convention.

I’m truly looking forward to seeing familiar faces, meeting new members, and sharing a memorable experience together.

And remember — if you have ideas, suggestions, or would like to serve on a committee, please reach out. Many hands make light work, and the more we work together, the better our convention will be.

Wade Frink
Director of Conventions
keepontask@yahoo.com

OFFICER ARTICLE



Report from Director of Special Projects



By Dick Gorton, Director of Special Projects

As the Director of Special Projects, I have begun visiting clubs in order to update them on the latest information on diabetes research and to encourage clubs and club members to donate to the International Project.

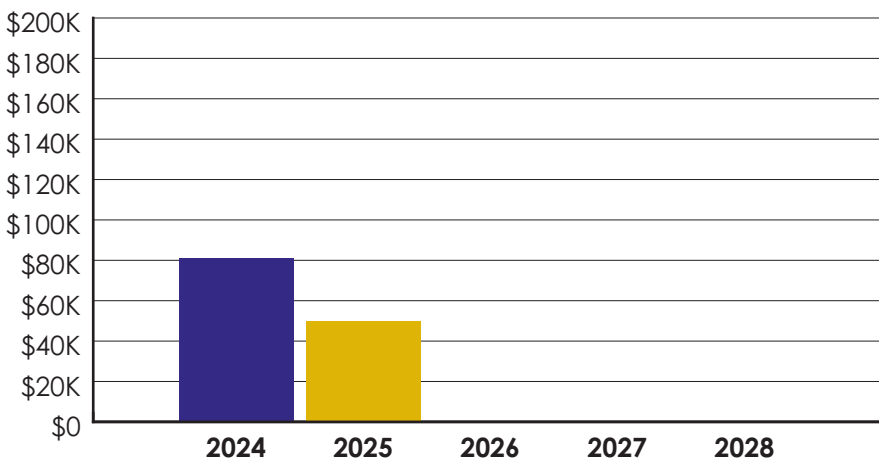


So far, I have visited the Fremont 100 Club, the Omaha Cornhusker Club, the Sioux City Club, the Sioux Falls Noon Club, and the Council Bluffs Club. I will be scheduling meeting with the clubs in the MoKan Federation in the coming months.

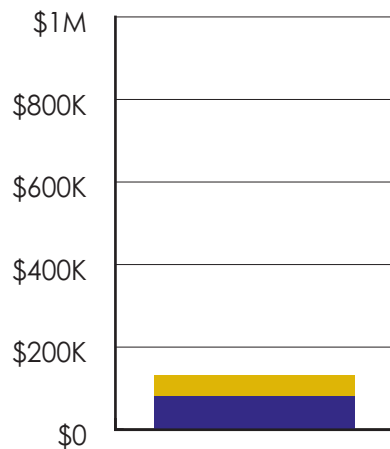
I am also gathering information on donations that have been made to the International Project. This information is shown on the charts that are a part of this report. If you see any errors or omissions, please contact me.

Dick Gorton
 Director of Special Projects
 dick.gorton@cosmopolitan.org

5-YEAR DONATION GOAL YEARLY GOALS



5-YEAR DONATION GOAL



Donation Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Club Total
Individuals	\$2,300	\$6,984	-	-	-	\$9,284
Columbia Breakfast	\$5,000	\$10,000	-	-	-	\$15,000
Canadian Foundation of CI	\$25,000	-	-	-	-	\$25,000
Calgary	\$20,000	-	-	-	-	\$20,000
Regina	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	\$5,000
Wascana	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	\$5,000
Prince Albert	\$2,500	-	-	-	-	\$2,500
Saskatoon	\$1,000	-	-	-	-	\$1,000
Fremont	-	\$10,500	-	-	-	\$10,500
Columbia Luncheon	\$10,000	\$10,000	-	-	-	\$20,000
Sioux City	-	\$2,500	-	-	-	\$2,500
Auroa	-	\$1,000	-	-	-	\$1,000
Rapid City	-	\$2,000	-	-	-	\$2,000
Sioux Falls	-	\$1,500	-	-	-	\$1,500
Omaha Cornhusker	-	\$500	-	-	-	\$500
Columbia Show Me	\$5,000	\$5,000	-	-	-	\$10,000
Year Total	\$80,800	\$49,984	-	-	-	\$130,784

OFFICER ARTICLE



DRI Foundation News

By Don Gentry, CDF President

In major diabetes research news just published in Nature Communications, scientists at the Diabetes Research Institute (DRI) at the University of Miami have shown that a small peptide, called THR-123, can trigger regeneration of insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas, restoring normal blood sugar levels in pre-clinical experimental models.



This regenerative effect, achieved without cell transplantation, offers new hope for treating insulin-dependent diabetes through pharmacological means.

Led by **Drs. Juan Domínguez-Bendala and Ricardo Pastori** at the DRI, this discovery builds on over a decade of work uncovering the potential of dormant progenitor cells that reside within the pancreatic ducts. These stem-like cells, found also in patients with type 1 diabetes (T1D), can be reactivated to form new pancreatic tissue when stimulated with specific growth factors.

"This study confirms that the pancreas harbors a regenerative capacity we can pharmacologically awaken," said **Dr. Juan Domínguez-Bendala**, Director of Stem Cell and Pancreatic Regeneration Programs at the DRI. "It is the strongest evidence to date that regeneration from within is not just a concept: it is a testable, achievable strategy."

"Our findings chart a clear course toward a new class of regenerative treatments for insulin-dependent diabetes," added **Dr. Ricardo Pastori**, Professor of Medicine at the University of Miami. "We are not just replacing lost cells, we are teaching the pancreas to heal itself."

Don Gentry
CFD President
dg2518@gmail.com

OFFICER ARTICLE





By Angela McFalls, CFCI President

Cosmopolitan Foundation of Canada Inc. (CFCI) continues to raise funds in support Diabetes Research and the International Project, put forth by past International President Dick Gorton. DRIFCan is the Canadian recipient of these funds.



DRIFCan provides fast, flexible funding to support Dr. Shapiro's team so they can access the resources they need when they need them and accelerate progress toward a cure.

The Shapiro Lab is internationally recognized for its work on cure-based diabetes research. The team focuses on islet transplantation, stem-cell-derived islet cells,

and immune-protective strategies that aim to restore natural insulin production. Their goal is to move promising discoveries from the lab into real clinical solutions for people living with diabetes.

For more information about DRIFCan or the CFCI please visit the links below:

www.drifcan.com

www.cosmofoundationcanada.org

Yours in fellowship,

Angela McFalls
President CFCI 2025/26
angelamcfalls7@outlook.com



Promoting The Living Gift Through Medical Research Since 1984

2025 International Convention

Rookie of the Year: Linda Woolley



The Rookie of the Year for 2025 is Linda Woolley of the Cosmopolitan Luncheon Club of Columbia, MO. Linda joined the Luncheon Club on August 8, 2023, and immediately jumped in with both feet. She volunteered in the "Get to Know Your Fellow Member" program. She also got involved with the Pancake & Sausage Committee and worked tirelessly during

the event. After she completed six months in Cosmo, she began volunteering at the Bingo Fundraiser on Wednesday evenings. Linda has also attended the club's other events such as Bunco, Christmas Deck the Hall, Hall of Fame and the Fall Park Membership event.

Linda also joined the Committee for the club's Diabetes Fair, where she helped secure vendors and getting the information out to the public by placing the flyer at various businesses. Also, at the Diabetes Fair, Linda recruited and brought in one new member to the club.

Linda is one of those members who steps in and steps up and makes the club better than it was before she joined. She is member in good standing, has perfect attendance at the meetings, fundraisers and events, and is always coming up with new ideas to help move our club and Cosmopolitan forward.

After attending one of the Cosmopolitan International Conventions as a guest with her friend, she was on fire to be a part of everything Cosmopolitans were doing and she said "I'm joining the club, I want to be a part of this!"

Outside of club activities, Linda has attended MoKan Federation conventions as well as the Cosmopolitan International Conventions.

Linda is a bright individual and works tirelessly on ways to expand and achieve our club's goals. She shares our vision of finding a cure for diabetes and making our community a better place to live. Linda's efforts contribute greatly toward raising funds and growing our club. She spreads the word of who Cosmo is and what we do. She brings guests to meetings and recruits members at our events.

Linda's passion and enthusiasm about what we do has made a big impact on the Luncheon Club of Columbia. She works at all fundraisers and events and shares our story with others. With members like Linda, not only will our clubs thrive but so will our whole organization.

Other Nominees:

- Timothy O'Connor, Omaha I-80 Club, Cornbelt Federation
- Lorie Whiting, Rapid City Club, North Central Federation
- Trina Mason, Wascana Club, Western Canada Federation

Cosmopolitan Member Community Service: Karl Merbach



This year's Cosmopolitan Member Community Service winner is Karl Merbach from the Rapid City Cosmopolitan Club and he has regular attendance at club meetings and special events. Karl volunteers at the majority of fundraising events for the club including ushering events at the local Rapid City Civic Center. Additionally, he has participated in the club's major fundraising

event, the Rapid City Sports and Outdoors show. Karl also attends and supports the club at annual funds distribution to the community organizations and the annual Kamp-for-Kids event for kids with diabetes and their families. He has been a member of the Rapid City Club since 2016 and served as their club president as well as being a board member for 5 years.

Karl and his wife Carol have both been active members of the Rapid City Club and while the activities with the club keep them busy, there are still many hours they devote to other community activities. Karl enjoys his time serving other community organizations, especially those where he can serve not only as a member, but as a mentor to new and younger members. He has enjoyed the opportunities to step outside his comfort zone.

Karl is a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Rapid City and provides support for various church activities. He has been a member of Toastmasters International for 24 years. Karl achieved the Distinguished Toastmaster level and leadership roles which include serving twice as District Director and continues to serve in club and district leadership roles and as a mentor to many new and experienced Toastmasters.

Karl began with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of South Dakota as a school mentor to 3rd grade students and after one year transitioned to community program. Contact included weekly visits and activities, and he continues to keep in touch.

Karl is a volunteer with Junior Achievement and presents a 5-lesson program to students in grade school through high school on various life skills programs. Karl also volunteers with the Abbott House of South Dakota. Abbott House provides therapeutic residential treatment, foster care, and independent living services to more and more youth across the State of South Dakota. As a volunteer he has assisted in a variety of fundraising events, including raffles, concerts, and programs to help the children they serve.

He has been on the volunteer committee of the Pennington County Local Emergency Planning Committee for 14 years. It is a volunteer committee requiring counties to form a committee of emergency response agencies and volunteers to prepare for hazardous chemical and emergency response situations. He is a volunteer with the Black Hills Works organization which works with mentally disabled adults to provide care, housing and employment opportunities. The volunteer activities include visiting with adults.



AWARD WINNERS

Other community volunteer activities include: (1) The Youth and Family Services and volunteers for fund-raising events that provide opportunity to promote children's early development and learning programs; (2) the City of Rapid City Sustainability Committee works with the community to provide learning and community clean up events, including Earth Day seminar; and also (3) the Black Gap Road District as an elected member of the homeowner's road district board.

As outlined above, Karl has been highly active in many Rapid City community and county activities and very active in the Rapid City Cosmopolitan Club.

Other Nominees:

- Gabriel Ruiz, Omaha Cornhuskers Club, Cornbelt Federation
- Aric Jarvis, Columbia Luncheon Club, Mo-Kan Federation

President of the Year: Tammy Allen



Tammy Allen of the Edmonton Cosmopolitan Club was awarded the President of the Year award. Tammy joined Cosmopolitan on October 25, 2010, and has been an active member of the club since joining.

Tammy firmly believes that every Cosmo meeting and social event is effectively a "Membership event". Club members

are encouraged to invite potential new members to all functions. Tammy enthusiastically embraced the Western Canada Federation's membership competition. At the very next club meeting, teams were formed, and the challenge began. Tammy provides team updates at every meeting and encourages club members to participate in the competition.

Under Tammy's leadership as President, the Edmonton Club has brainstormed fundraising ideas in addition to the club's Casino funds that have been raised.

The Edmonton Club participates in regular volunteer opportunities to support the community, such as the Edmonton Food Bank, a river clean up, and the St. Albert Lifestyle Expo Volunteer Fair.

As President, Tammy is an active member of several committees, including Cosmo Day, Awards, and she was part of the International Convention Planning Committee.

Tammy has shown to be an exceptional leader and organizer. A Cosmo to the core, she brings levity and passion to the traits all Cosmos aspire too.

Tammy has attended many Federation and International Conventions as an ambassador for our club in past years. Tammy has also served on the Federation Board, including the first ever two-year term as Governor.

Tammy takes all club members' opinions and ideas into account creating a welcoming environment. She is always adding fun and meaningful notes to our newsletters. She clearly cares and her bright ideas, long-term experience and warm personality has brought about a successful year for the Edmonton Club.

Cosmo of the Year: Cheryl Mackenzie



Cheryl MacKenzie is this year's Cosmopolitan of the Year. Cheryl has been a member of the Edmonton Cosmopolitan Club since January 8, 2018, and hit the ground running. She instantly became one of the club's most active members and continues to be involved at several levels of the organization.

Cheryl has been the club Vice President and then Club President in 2021-2022. She has served as Western Canada Federation Lt. Governor and Governor-Elect in 2023-2024. She was also the Cosmopolitan Foundation Canada, Inc. President in 2021-2024 and served as Vice President. She served on the task force on membership for Cosmopolitan International and is currently the Cosmopolitan International Vice President of Membership and New Clubs.

Cheryl created websites for both the CFCI and the Western Canada Federation. She is a consistent attendee at Federation and International Conventions.

She exhibits great dedication to the club, with an incredible 86% attendance of club meetings and attends most volunteer and social events.

Cheryl has served on many committees since she joined and is currently on the following committees: Membership and Education assisting with recruiting new members; Community engagement which liaises with a number of diabetes related organizations which includes volunteer opportunities for the members and requesting guest speakers to visit the club meetings; Christmas Giving Event which committee decides on which organizations will receive funds from the club; and International Convention Committee which planned the International Convention held July 2024 taking the lead on the education sessions during this convention.

In addition to her dedication to the Edmonton Cosmopolitan Club, Cheryl is also involved in the Fraternal Order of Eagles; Rock'n August which is a 5 day car show, all in support of fundraising for diabetes; Alberta Diabetes Foundation member of the Research Funding Committee since 2022; and Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF) where she volunteers regularly and recruits additional volunteers.

Cheryl is an incredible asset to the Edmonton Club, the Western Canada Federation, and Cosmopolitan International. Her dedication as a Cosmopolitan is unsurpassed. When she pledged her "loyalty and friendship to every Cosmopolitan" she took her membership seriously.

Other Nominees:

- Jim Jourdon, Fremont 100 Club, Cornbelt Federation
- Beverly Braun, Columbia Luncheon Club, Mo-Kan Federation
- Nancy Trautman, Rapid City Club, North Central Federation

2025 International Convention

Patrick J. Hodgins Distinguished Member: Timothy Dollens



Timothy Dollens is the 2025 Patrick J. Hodgins Distinguished Member. Timothy is a member of the Cosmopolitan Luncheon Club of Columbia, MO and the Mo-Kan Federation. Since Tim's join date of June 18, 2012, he has been active in every club fundraiser and event. He has served on the Board of Managers for club as a board member for several years,

Secretary twice, President-Elect and President. He has been active on several committees including Pancake & Sausage, Weekly Bingo, Tuesday socials, Bunco Membership event, and co-chaired the club's 75th anniversary. He has also had perfect attendance since he joined the club, which is now over 10 years.

Tim also successfully led the club in new adventures, such as: Adding a Facebook page; taking pictures of all club events and sharing them with members; creation of Cosmo Corner which brought collaboration with the Boone County Historical Society and their need for 135 parking spaces and helping to provide funds to build two new shelters along with creating a children's farm theme playground; and getting the club involved with Columbia Center of Urban Agriculture and their largest fundraiser.

Tim was installed as the Mo-Kan Federation Governor in 2019 and travelled to club meetings, visited many of the Mo-Kan Clubs' fundraisers and made special trips to induct new members and install new officers at Club inaugurations. He was always eager to help all the Presidents plan events and socials to build member moral and build their clubs. Tim takes all his positions in Cosmo seriously and is a firm believer that we need and will find a cure for diabetes.

Tim enjoyed learning about and participating at the international level while he was on the CI Board during his term as Federation Governor. He already had participated in some International Committees, for example, serving on the Awards committee. Tim is always eager to assist where needed, for example, he wore many hats helping prepare for the 100th Anniversary in 2018; he used his expertise as an employee of the library and scholar of Genealogy, to look up the history of Patrick J. Hodgins and locate living relatives of Patrick J. Hodgins for the Opening Ceremonies speaker and the CI Board; acted as co-chair of the entertainment committee; acted as convention photographer and was a member of the Centennial Anniversary t-shirt committee. Tim is a champion for International, always promoting it at the club level. He believes if we could just get members to conventions, they will better understand how we all work together and complement each other.

Tim, a dedicated Cosmo member, has significantly impacted the club and community with his passion for diabetes awareness and support. His journey, marked by relentless commitment, innovative ideas, and effective communication, has not only amplified the organization's mission but also fostered a sense of unity and purpose among members.

Tim's ability as a leader and his passion for diabetes awareness and community engagement have profoundly transformed the club and the organization. Tim's ability to foster a sense of unity and purpose among members is unequal. His unwavering dedication serves as an inspiration to all, demonstrating the incredible impact that one individual can have on the organization.

Other Nominees:

- Richard "Dick" Gorton, Omaha Cornhuskers Club, Cornbelt Federation
- Kathy Krysak, Wascana Club, Western Canada Federation

Governor of the Year Award Recipient: Karen Shepherd



During the 2024-25 year, Governor Karen's second term of service was marked by thoughtful leadership, clear priorities, and a deep commitment to strengthening both clubs and the federation. At the outset of the year, she established clear goals—membership growth, improved communication, increased fellowship, and a renewed focus on funding diabetes research—and delivered meaningful progress in each area.

Under her leadership, three clubs—Edmonton, Prince Albert, and Wascana—successfully increased their membership, reflecting a federation-wide effort to recruit and retain members. Communication was enhanced through consistent monthly newsletters, timely updates, and the invitation for presidents and members to participate in monthly WCF Executive meetings, fostering transparency and engagement.

Governor Karen emphasized fun and fellowship through initiatives such as the Governor's Challenge and the Membership Challenge, while ensuring the federation's core mission remained front and centre by regularly highlighting the importance of funding diabetes research. She also led or supported several major initiatives, including a comprehensive WCF Executive restructure, updated awards processes and materials, and the development of convention education sessions focused on financial transparency and club success.

Her leadership extended beyond meetings and planning. Governor Karen actively represented Cosmopolitan at events such as the Humboldt 4x4x48, organized a successful virtual mid-term meeting, encouraged community engagement through Cosmo Day, and maintained strong connections with clubs through visits and inductions where possible. She also represented the federation at CI meetings and conventions, advocating for electronic voting to ensure inclusive member participation.

Through dedication, collaboration, and vision, Governor Karen has strengthened the foundation of the federation and exemplified outstanding service—making her a truly deserving Governor of the Year.



AWARD WINNERS *(Cont.)*

Other Award Winners

Clubs Celebrating Milestone Anniversaries

- 30th Anniversary – Wascana Club, Western Canada Federation
- 50th Anniversary – Omaha I-80 Club, Cornbelt Federation
- 60th Anniversary – Fremont 100 Club, Cornbelt Federation
- 60th Anniversary – Sioux City Club, Cornbelt Federation
- 100th Anniversary – Cosmopolitan Club Of Sioux Falls, North Central Federation.

Club Big “C” Award

The Highest Award Given to Those Clubs that Meet the Stringent Requirements in the Areas of Commitment, Competence, and Cultivation:

- Luncheon Club of Columbia, Mo – MokaN Federation
- Edmonton Club – Western Canada Federation
- Sioux City Club – Cornbelt Federation

Club Newsletter Award

- Edmonton Club – Western Canada Federation

Other Nominees

- Luncheon Club of Columbia, MO – MoKan Federation

Club Community Service Award

- Heartland Santa-Fe Club – MokaN Federation

Other Nominees

- Omaha Cornhuskers Club – Cornbelt Federation
- Edmonton Club – Western Canada Federation

Member 50th Anniversary

- Larry Benton – Luncheon Club of Columbia, Mo and Columbia Show-Me Club
- Darwin Sletten – Cosmopolitan Club of Sioux Falls
- Jim Barrett – Omaha I-80
- Ronald Schuller – Omaha I-80
- Gene Svensen – Omaha I-80



2026 COSMOPOLITAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

PLAN YOUR TRIP TO BLOOMINGTON, MN TODAY!

Save the Dates • July 23–26, 2026

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS:

Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington
3900 American Blvd West
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437

- Complimentary shuttle to/from airport, Mall of America, and within a 5-mile radius of hotel
- Complimentary open lot and covered parking
- Complimentary WiFi in guestrooms and meeting space
- Guestroom rate available 3 days pre/post event dates, based on availability.
- ChopHouse steakhouse on site
- Olive Lounge on site with casual American fare for breakfast, lunch, dinner
- On-site Starbucks Coffee Bar
- Indoor heated swimming pool and hot tub
- Fully equipped 24-hour fitness center
- Pet friendly policy: Cats and dogs under 50 lbs, with a fee of \$100 per pet per stay



CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS:

At the heart of the Cosmopolitan International Convention will be educational sessions as well as fun and the annual business of our organization.

Thursday:

- CI Board meeting on Thursday afternoon
- First Timer Orientation Session. Many remember the first convention we ever attended. We want to make sure all new attendees have a positive experience at their first convention so come to the session at 3:45 p.m. Past International Presidents Melvina Newman and Judy Weitkemper will be sharing what to expect during your time at convention.
- Welcome Party Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Friday:

- Several Education Sessions will be held, both morning and afternoon.
- CDF/CFCI Beacons Luncheon
- Dinner and Entertainment – a fun evening you won't want to miss. This Dueling Duo group has been wowing audiences across the Midwest since the summer of 2009. In all these years, this musical/comedic force has brought its all-request brand of insanity to 10 states for over 1650 shows! Andy, Ryno and Dan have performed for corporate events, fundraisers, county fairs, weddings, theme parties...even President Clinton and also the Cosmopolitan Club. Being an all-request show, every event is different...because the audiences pick the songs! A recent review of the show said the DUO "provides joy, laughter and hope through their incredible talents in a world that's full of questions and chaos."

Saturday:

- Awards Judging
- Delegates meeting
- Installation luncheon
- Board meetings
- President's banquet and awards plus more great entertainment with a variety of music.

A full schedule is included to the right for your review and additional information. A few adjustments will be made but will not change the days and times of events.

Registration for convention and rooms will be available soon. Watch your messages and website.

The Cosmopolitan International Convention is an opportunity to connect with your Cosmo family and you will also leave with renewed purpose and motivation to take back to your clubs.

*Hope to see you in Bloomington!
Be Sure to Save These Dates!*

Melvina Newman
headquarters@cosmopolitan.org

2026 COSMOPOLITAN INTERNATIONAL Convention Schedule

Wednesday, July 22, 2026			
8:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	Suite (Spirits provided by Cornbelt Federation)
PIP GATHERING TO BE DETERMINED (Wednesday evening or Thursday A.M.)			
Thursday, July 23, 2026			
10:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Registration	Entrance Lobby
2:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	1st CI Board Meeting	American Salon
3:45 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	First Timer Orientation Session	Melvina Newman/Judy Weitkemper
3:00 p.m.		Check-in Time into Hotel	
6:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	Welcome Party Dinner Official Opening of Convention	American Salon
8:00 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	Suite (Spirits provided by Cornbelt Federation)
Friday, July 24, 2026			
8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Registration	Entrance Lobby
8:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	American Salon
9:15 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Education Session - Club Officer Training	Judy Weitkemper
10:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break	
10:15 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	Education Session	
11:00 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	Education Session - International Project	Dick Gorton plus Speaker
12:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	CDF/CFCI Luncheon/BEACONS	CDF will provide Speaker, MC, and agenda for this luncheon
1:30 p.m.		Education Session - Diabetes Research	Sanford Speaker Sponsored by Sioux Falls Noon Club
	3:15 p.m.	Diabetes Devices	Sanford Speaker Sponsored by Sioux Falls Noon Club
3:15 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	Free Time	
6:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	Dinner & Cash Bar with Great Entertainment	American Salon
10:00 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	Suite (Spirits provided by Cornbelt Federation)
Saturday, July 25, 2026			
8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Registration	Entrance Lobby
8:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Breakfast/Speaker	Sanford Speaker Sponsored by Sioux Falls Noon Club
8:30 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	Awards Judging	
9:15 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	Delegates Meeting	American Salon
12:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Installation Luncheon	
1:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	CI Board Meeting	
2:45 p.m.	3:45 p.m.	CDF and CFCI Board Meetings	
6:00 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	President's Banquet, Awards, & Great Entertainment	
10:00 p.m.	11:30 p.m.	HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN	Suite (Spirits provided by Cornbelt Federation)
Sunday, July 26, 2026			
8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Convention Wrap-up Breakfast & Comments	American Salon

This is a tentative schedule for the convention.



Honoring a Great Cosmopolitan

By Cheryl MacKenzie, Director of Membership

Kay Fey was born during the Great Depression in a small rural community between Regina and Saskatoon.

She began her career in health care by training as a Psychiatric Registered Nurse in Weyburn, completing three years of study before transferring in 1955 to the Saskatchewan Training School in Moose Jaw. After upgrading her nursing credentials, she returned to Moose Jaw in 1959 and remained there until 1972.

During her years in Moose Jaw, Kay contributed to a pioneering program that supported people with mild disabilities in transitioning from institutional life back into the community. In 1972, she joined SIAST Kelsey College in Saskatoon as an instructor, a role she held until 1987. At Kelsey College, she continued her lifelong commitment to inclusion and community living by helping educate others in the core skills needed to provide effective disability services.

Two years after taking early retirement from SIAST, Kay became Program Director at Cosmopolitan Industries in Saskatoon. Founded in 1971, Cosmopolitan Industries exists “to give individuals with intellectual disabilities opportunities to live rich lives, filled with choices in their community.” After five years as Program Director, Kay served a further five years as Executive Director, from 1994 to 1999.

Kay’s leadership at Cosmopolitan Industries was deeply connected to her broader service within Cosmopolitan. In 1994, she and her husband, Des, became charter members of the Couples Cosmopolitan Club of Saskatoon. Roger Pilon was the main mover in establishing the Couples Club in 1994. The roots of Cosmopolitan Industries are closely tied to Cosmopolitan service in the city: Howard Stensrud—long-time member and Past President of the original Saskatoon Cosmopolitan Club—was instrumental in its establishment. Saskatoon-area Cosmopolitan Clubs purchased the building and property where Cosmopolitan Industries operates and

have continued to support its work ever since. Kay’s contributions went beyond the club level. It’s noteworthy to recognize her efforts with the Cosmopolitan Foundation Canada Inc. Kay served as Director at the Foundation, finishing her term with the organization at the end of 2018-19 when she retired after serving a year as President.

Kay and Des were married for more than 50 years. Together, they served on every committee and held every office in the Couples Club at various times, remaining active until Des passed away in 2018. Since then, Kay has continued to be an important part of what is now the Cosmopolitan Club of Saskatoon. She regularly attends Western Canada Federation and International conventions and continues to participate in club activities. While she no longer drives and finds it difficult to attend meetings consistently, her commitment endures.

Kay Fey is a shining example of Cosmopolitan values in action—living out Unity, Service, and Action through a lifetime of leadership, advocacy, and care for others.



Kay Fey and Roger Pilon holding the charter certificate for the Couples Club at the 20th Anniversary dinner on June 11, 2014

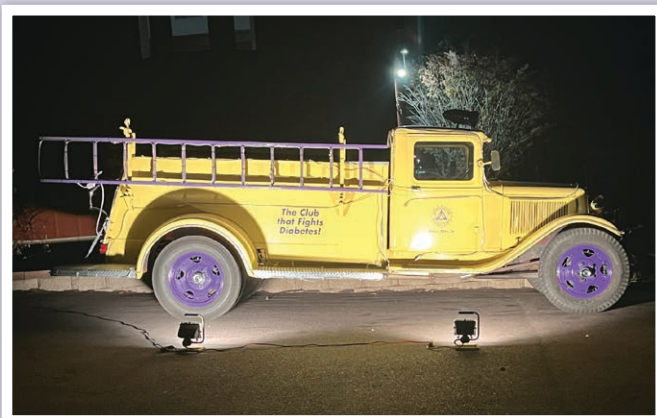
SIoux CITY COSMOPOLITAN CLUB CELEBRATES 60 YEARS



The Sioux City Cosmopolitan Club celebrated their 60th anniversary with a social and dinner event on November 15, 2025, at The Whispering Creek Clubhouse.

It was an evening of laughter, music and reconnecting with fellow Cosmopolitans from South Dakota and Nebraska. Members enjoyed thumbing through a display of Past President's award-winning Yearbooks that were on display and had won at Federation and International while listening to live music. We are fortunate to have three 60 Year Charter Members still active in our club, Bob Derflinger, Jay Gelfand and Nick Riser were honored and they were present for the evening celebration. They received a standing ovation, and Bob was also recognized as being the oldest Cosmo in our organization. Melvina Newman presented Bob Derflinger with a plaque for being a 60 year charter member and oldest Cosmo in International. Jay and Nick were also presented with 60-year charter member plaques. Camp Gilbert Director, Laura Parish, spoke about Camp Gilbert and was presented a check for \$6,000 to support their efforts. In 2024-2025, the Club raised over \$29,000 through fundraising efforts. \$15,410 of that amount was given to support Diabetes causes. The rest of the money went to support local non-profits.

Jeff Myers was the Master of Ceremonies and led the celebration in jokes and introductions. Melvina Newman also presented a banner from International for 60 years serving Siouxland and the surrounding area.



CLUB HAPPENINGS

North Central Federation Club Happenings

By Charles Reuwsaat, NCF Governor

Rapid City: Monday meetings at lunch time weekly at Thirsty's Restaurant.

President: Becky Kerr

The Rapid City Club enjoyed our annual Christmas Party held at the Monument Event Center on December 9th. We had 55 members/guests attend. Santa & Mrs. Claus joined our party. Attendees enjoyed taking photos with them for keepsakes. All attendees went home with a gift from our drawings of cash and gift cards. Member, Dick Dittman entertained attendees during our social hour with Christmas Tunes on

his Trumpet. Our program entertainment was the Central High School Freshman Choir. We continue to be very busy with Hockey season-scanning tickets and working the ice arena, concerts and theatre. We are in preparation for ticket scanning during the upcoming Stock Show & Rodeo the end of January and beginning of February. The Sports Expo will be February 13-15th. It takes several members, spouses and friends to cover all the needs during the Sports Expo. We are very busy and love to raise money for our annual funds distribution in the summer.



Sioux Falls Evening: Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday at various restaurants

President: Deb Peterson

Sioux Falls Noon: Meets Mondays at noon at the SD Military Heritage Alliance.

President: Jim Clark

1. Our club's 97th Distinguished Service Award Banquet that was held Oct. 23, 2025 at The Country Club of Sioux Falls in which we honored Craig and Pat Lloyd (Craig posthumously) for a lives of service to our community. See the attached photos. At the event, since it's such a high profile, public event, we also take the opportunity to present significant contributions.
2. Our Holiday Gathering on Jan 8, 2026 at the Olde Towne Dinner Theatre in Worthing, SD. We enjoyed a great meal and saw a great show, the Savannah Sipping Society.



Western Canada Federation



By Gord Hendrickson, WCF Governor

The following appeared on the Alberta Diabetes Foundation Facebook page:

We are deeply grateful to the Calgary Cosmopolitan Club (Cosmos) for their generous donation to the Alberta Diabetes Foundation.

For many years, the Cosmos (Edmonton and Calgary) have been more than donors...they have been trusted partners in our work, driven by a shared belief in strengthening community well-being through service, volunteerism, and charitable giving.

Their continued support has played a meaningful role in advancing diabetes

research and helping move critical projects for the diabetes community forward.

Support like this makes progress possible, and we are honoured to work alongside organizations like the Cosmos who are committed to creating real, lasting change.

If your organization or community group is looking for ways to make a difference, we would love to connect. Together, we can support diabetes research, care, and progress across Alberta.



CLUB HAPPENINGS

ALBERTA DIABETES FOUNDATION

CATEGORIES OF RECOGNIZED PROGRAMS

Changing the World One Person and One Community at a Time

The mission of Cosmopolitan International is to change the world one person and one community at a time. That's why Cosmopolitan International service projects—however large or small—aim to serve both individuals and communities. Our Clubs across the US and Canada raise funds to assist in diabetes research, as well as help their local communities by sponsoring projects that are used by many people throughout their community.

An application has been prepared to facilitate listing these programs. Applications can be submitted by individual clubs or federations. Once an application is reviewed and accepted as complete, the proposed center / program will be appropriately listed. Applications are available from CI headquarters and are downloadable from www.cosmopolitan.org under Resources, Club and Federation Info.

Major Cosmopolitan Diabetes Center/Program

- Primary focus must be diabetes related
- A minimum of \$25,000 over two (2) years or \$50,000 over five (5) years to a single diabetes oriented entity
- Source of funds must be Cosmopolitan members, clubs, or federations
- Application (or letter) to be submitted to CI Board for consideration
- Must provide specific information to CI Board to show how criteria have been satisfied

EASTERN VIRGINIA MEDICAL SCHOOL, STRELITZ DIABETES CENTER

855 Brambleton Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23510
B 757.446.5909
Jerry L. Nadler, M.D., FACP, Director

COSMOPOLITAN DIABETES CENTER UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

One Hospital Drive
Columbia, MO 65212
B 573.882.2273
Todd Bocklage, Administrator

THE COSMOPOLITAN FUND FOR CHILDREN VALERIE MILLAR ENDOWMENT FUND

PO Box 394
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0394
B 605.333.7315
Dr. Laura Davis-Keppen, M.D.

DIABETES INCORPORATION

PO Box 9368
Rapid City, SD 57709
661.809.0556
Erin Bachi, Executive Director

CRUSADER CLINIC/COSMOPOLITAN DIABETES PROGRAM

1200 West State Street
Rockford, IL 61102-2112
B 815.490.1600
Samuel G. Miller
President and CEO

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

1312 W 6th St
Lawrence, KS 66044
785.841.7297
Elizabeth Keever,
Chief Development Officer

ALBERTA DIABETES FOUNDATION & THE ALBERTA DIABETES INSTITUTE

University of Alberta
1-020 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health
8602 112 Street
Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1
ADFAdmin@ABDiabetes.com
albertadiabetesfoundation.com

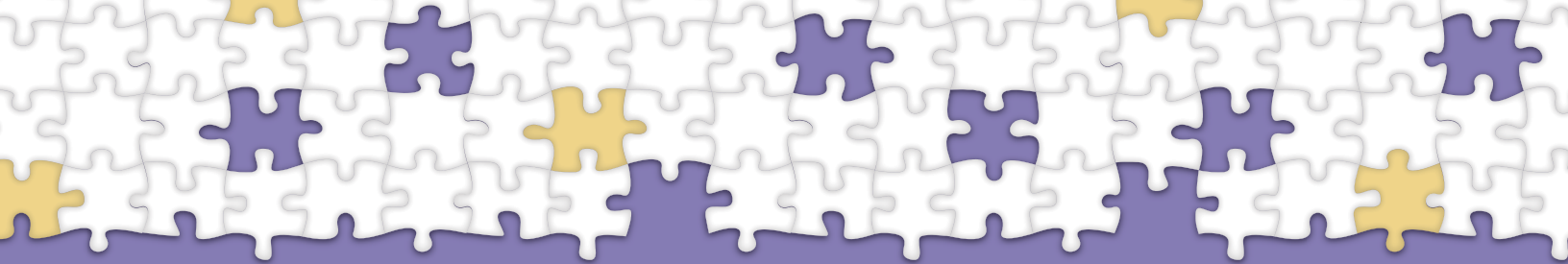
CORNBELT DIABETES CONNECTION, INC.

9905 South 173rd Circle
Omaha, NE 68136
H 402.895.6732, C 402.290.3471
Terry Sanford, Chair
tsanford77@cox.net

THE CENTRAL MISSOURI DIABETIC CHILDREN'S CAMP, INC.

PO Box 1942
Columbia, MO 65205-1942
P 573.474.4326
David Bernhardt,
CPA, Executive Director





Major Cosmopolitan Community Center/Program

- Primary focus is non-diabetes related
- A minimum of \$25,000 over two (2) years or \$50,000 over five (5) years to a single non-diabetes oriented entity
- Source of funds must be Cosmopolitan members, clubs, or federations
- Application (or letter) to be submitted to CI Board for consideration
- Must provide specific information to CI Board to show how criteria have been satisfied

COSMOPOLITAN INDUSTRIES, LTD.

28 34th Street E, Saskatoon, SK S7K 1R5 CANADA
Sharlene Duquette, Executive Director
B 306.664.3158

SPECIAL LEARNING CENTER

1115 Fairgrounds Rd. Jefferson City, MO 65109
B 573.634.3070
Debbie Hamler, Executive Director
dhamler@speciallearningcenter.com

Cosmopolitan Supported Diabetes Program

(Not to be confused with the Major Cosmopolitan Supported).

- Primary focus must be diabetes related
- A minimum of \$5,000 over two (2) years or \$10,000 over five (5) years to a single diabetes oriented entity
- Source of funds must be Cosmopolitan members, clubs, or federations
- Application (or letter) to be submitted to CI Board for consideration
- Must provide specific information to CI Board to show how criteria have been satisfied

ELGIN COSMOPOLITAN CLUB DIABETES EMERGENCY RESCUE FUND

Social Service Department,
Sherman Hospital
934 Center Street, Elgin, IL 60120
B 847.742.9800

SETBAID SERVICES' DIABETES CAMPS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS WITH DIABETES

PO Box 196
Winfield, PA 17889-0196
B 570.524.9090 or 866.SETBAID
Mark Moyer, MBA, MHA,
Executive Director
www.setbaidservices.org
info@setbaidservices.org

MONUMENT HEALTH RAPID CITY CLINIC - ENDOCRINOLOGY AND DIABETES EDUCATION

640 Flormann Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
Dr. J. Palmer
Dr. S Khachikian
B 605.718.3300

RUSH Copley Hospital

Alex Pope CFRE,
Vice President
2000 Ogden Ave
Aurora, IL 60504
www.rush.edu
B 630.978.4946



COSMOTOPICS
2500 W. 49th Street, Ste. 223
Sioux Falls, SD 57105-6508

JULY 23-26 | INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Hilton Minneapolis/ Bloomington, MN



Please save the dates!
Look for registration &
Encourage your club to be
a part of this wonderful event!

In Memoriam

The entire Cosmopolitan family joins in extending sympathy to the families of those Cosmos recently lost:

James Bruce McVay
Omaha Cornhusker and At Large
Omaha, NE
July 4, 2025

James (Jim) Kavanaugh
Sioux City Club
Sioux City, IA
October 6, 2025

Larry Benton
Columbia Luncheon and
Columbia Show-Me
Columbia, MO
October 17, 2025

William Carl (Bill) Weitkemper
Columbia Luncheon Club
Columbia, MO
October 26, 2025

Laura Ruth Underwood
Fremont 100
Fremont, NE
December 20, 2025

Gary Wayne Bartlett
River City Cosmopolitan Club
Emerald City Cosmopolitan Club
January 9, 2026

